

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

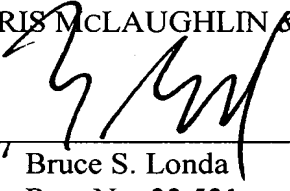
The claims have been revised to remove multiple dependencies and to place the claims in better form for substantive U.S. examination. No new matter is believed to have been added by this amendment.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

NORRIS McLAUGHLIN & MARCUS, P.A.

By

  
Bruce S. Londa

Reg. No. 33,531

875 Third Avenue

18<sup>th</sup> Floor

New York, New York 10022

Phone: (212) 808-0700


Fax: (212) 808-0844

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Preliminary Amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail" in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below:

Date: December 20, 2004

By

  
Cheryl B. Fisher